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information and a lucid description of the county, including the "Faunal Position of Santa Cruz County," taken from "Life Zones and Crop Zones of the United States," by C. Hart Merriam. Many foot note references in this part as well as in the list which follows furnish a bibliography to the paper.

The list of Land Birds impresses us as being one which has been prepared with great care both from the standpoint of an accurate list and in giving full credit to all who have worked in the region. The annotations upon the 139 species, though usually brief, are well chosen and add interest and value to the list. The only improvement in the typographical appearance, which is unusually good, might be a different style of character for the reference figures.

The paper is a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the birds of that region, and the author is to be congratulated.

L. J.

On the Osteology of the Striges. (Strigidæ and Bubonidæ.)

By R. W. Shufeldt, M. D., Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., Phila., Vol. XXXIX, No. 164, pp. 665-722, pll. X-XVII. Dr. Shufeldt has written much concerning the anatomy of Owls at various times and in different places since the publication of what he tells us was his first paper which was a memoir devoted to the *Osteology of speotyto cunicularia hypogæa*. In the present paper Dr. Shufeldt gives "a very general contribution to the study and comparison of the osteological characters presented on the part of the skeletons of all of the North American species, or at least genera, of *Strigidæ*." There are a number of illustrations, some of which are very fine plates and which are very satisfactorily elucidated in the text. Those of the skull are especially well executed and serve well to illustrate the interesting and valuable points Dr. Shufeldt directs attention to in the consideration of the morphology of the cranium to which particular attention is given, although the vertebral column and appendicular skeleton are not neglected.

In the beginning of the work, Dr. Shufeldt gives a number of osteological features which have been pointed out by Mr. F. E. Beddard and then supplements this by a list of his own,

which furnishes a valuable synopsis of very easy reference.

W. E. R.

On the Osteology of the Woodpeckers. By R. W. Shufeldt, M. D., Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., Phila., Vol. XXXIX, No. 164, pp. 578-622, pl. IX. In this paper Dr. Shufeldt gives a detailed account of the comparative osteology of the *Pici*, being the result of ten years collecting of these forms. The author has written a number of articles on this subject, the most important of which appeared in the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*. (February 3, 1891,) but the present memoir is the most complete one that has ever been written on the subject.

Dr. Shufeldt takes the subject up in a *general* rather than in a *special* manner and calls attention to the salient osteological features of many species of Woodpeckers, chiefly American, rather than devoting himself in detail to a single form, and, herein to our mind greatly rests the value of this paper; for in the present state of our knowledge it seems to us that this paper covering the ground which it does is of far more value than an elaborate account of the osteology of a single type would be, for, as the special osteology of the woodpeckers has not been as yet satisfactorily worked up it follows that a general work such as we have before us is what is especially desired at the present time.

Dr. Shufeldt also gives his views as to the relationship of the Woodpeckers and we cannot do better than quote his own words: "It is my opinion that it is to the great Passerine group that the *Pici* are more nearly affined than to any other existing suborder of birds. * * * * I here venture to state that as our knowledge of the morphology of *Aves* becomes more perfect the fact will be appreciated that the *Pici* and the *Passeres* are divergent groups from a common stock in time; and that the former have simply become highly specialized and modified in accordance with their mode of life and habits."

W. E. R.

The Osteology of the Cuckoos. (Coccyges). By Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., Vol. XL, No. 165.